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The SPECTATOR.

Principibus Placuiſſe viris non ultima laus eſt. Hor.

Monday, January 21. 1712.

THE Deſire of Pleaſing makes a Man agreeable or unwelcome to thoſe with whom he converſes, according to the Motive from which that Inclination appears to flow. If your Concern for pleaſing others ariſes from innate Benevolence, it never fails of Succeſs; if from a Vanity to excell, its Diſappointment is no leſs certain. What we call an agreeable Man, is he who is endowed with that natural Bent to do acceptable things, from a Delight he takes in them merely as ſuch; and the Affectation of that Character is what conſtitutes a Fop. Under theſe Leaders one may draw up all thoſe who make any Manner of Figure, except in dumb Show. A rational and ſelect Converſation is compoſed of Perſons, who have the Talent of pleaſing with Delicacy of Sentiments flowing from habitual Chaſtity of Thought; but mixed Company is frequently made up of Pretenders to Mirth, and is uſually peſter'd with conſtrained, obſcene, and painful Witticiſms. Now and then you meet with a Man ſo exactly formed for pleaſing, that it is no Matter what he is doing or ſaying, that is to ſay, that there need be no Manner of Importance in it, to make him gain upon every Body who hears or beholds him. This Felicity is not the Gift of Nature only, but muſt be attended with happy Circumſtances, which add a Dignity to the familiar Behaviour which diſtinguiſhes him whom we call an agreeable Man. It is from this that every *Body* loves and eſteems *Polycarpus*. He is in the Vigour of his Age and the Gayety of Life, but has paſſed through very conſpicuous Scenes of it; though no Soldier he has ſhared the Danger, and acted with great Gallantry and Generoſity on a deciſive Day of Battle. To have thoſe Qualities which only make other Men conſpicuous in the World as it were ſupernumerary to him, is a Circumſtance which gives Weight to his moſt indifferent Actions; for as a known Credit is Ready Caſh to a Trader, ſo is acknowledged Merit immediate Diſtinction, and ſerves in the Place of Equipage to a Gentleman. This renders *Polycarpus* graceful in Mirth, important in Buſineſs, and regarded with Love in every ordinary Occurrence. But not to dwell upon Characters which have ſuch particular Recommendations to our Hearts, let us turn our Thoughts rather to the Methods of Pleaſing, which muſt carry Men through the World who cannot pretend to ſuch Advantages. Falling in with the particular Humour or Manner of one above you, abſtracted from the general Rules of good Behaviour, is the Life of a Slave. A Paraſite differs in nothing from the meaneſt Servant, but that the Footman hires himſelf for bodily Labour, ſubjected to go and come at the Will of his Maſter, but the other gives up his very Soul: He is proſtituted to ſpeak, and profeſſes to think after the Mode of him whom he courts. This Servitude to a Patron, in an honeſt Nature, would be more grievous than that of wearing his Livery; therefore we ſhall ſpeak of thoſe Methods only which are worthy and ingenuous.

The happy Talent of pleaſing either thoſe above you or below you, ſeems to be wholly owing to the Opinion they have of your Sincerity. This Quality is to attend the agreeable Man in all the Actions of his Life; and I think there need be no more ſaid in Honour of it, than that it is what forces the Approbation even of your Opponents. The guilty Man has an Honour for the Judge who with Juſtice pronounces againſt him the Sentence of Death it ſelf. The Author of the Sentence at the Head of this Paper was an excellent Judge of humane Life, and paſſed his own in Company the moſt agreeable that ever was in the World. *Auguſtus* lived amongſt his Friends as if he had his Fortune to make in his own Court: Candour and Affability, accompanied with as much Power as ever Mortal was veſted with, were what made him in the utmoſt Manner agreeable among a Set of admirable Men, who had Thoughts too high for Ambition, and Views too large to be gratified by what he could give them in the Diſpoſal of an Empire, without the Pleaſures of their mutual Converſation. A certain Unanimity of Taſte and Judgment, which is natural to all of the ſame Order in the Species, was the Band of this Society; and the Emperour aſſumed no Figure in it but what he thought was his Due from his private Talents and Qualifications, as they contributed to advance the Pleaſures and Sentiments of the Company.

Cunning People, Hypocrites, all who are but half virtuous or half wiſe, are incapable of taſting the refined Pleaſure of ſuch an equal Company as could wholly exclude the Regard of Fortune in their Converſations. *Horace*, in the Diſcourſe from whence I take the Hint of the preſent Speculation, lays down excellent Rules for Conduct in Converſation with Men of Power; but he ſpeaks it with an Air of one who had no Need of ſuch an Application for any thing which related to himſelf. It ſhows he underſtood what it was to be a ſkilfull Courtier, by juſt Admonitions againſt Importunity, and ſhewing how forcible it was to ſpeak modeſtly of your own Wants. There is indeed ſomething ſo ſhameleſs in taking all Opportunities to ſpeak of your own Affairs, that he who is guilty of it towards him upon whom he depends, fares like the Beggar who expoſes his Sores, which inſtead of moving Compaſſion, makes the Man he begs of turn away from the Object.

I cannot tell what is become of him, but I remember about ſixteen Years ago an honeſt Fellow, who ſo juſtly underſtood how diſagreeable the Mention or Appearance of his Wants would make him, that I have often reflected upon him as a Counterpart of *Irus*, whom I have formerly mentioned. This Man, whom I have miſſed for ſome Years in my Walks, and have heard was ſome way employed about the Army, made it a Maxim, That good Wigs, delicate Linnen, and a chearful Air, were to a poor Dependant the ſame that working Tools are to a poor Artificer. It was no ſmall Entertainment to me, who knew his Circumſtances, to ſee him who had faſted two Days, attribute the Thinneſs they told him of to the Violence of ſome Gallantries he had lately been guilty of. The ſkilfull Diſſembler carried this on with the utmoſt Addreſs; and if any ſuſpected his Affairs were narrow, it was attributed to indulging himſelf in ſome faſhionable Vice rather than an irreproachable Poverty, which ſaved his Credit with thoſe on whom he depended.

The main Art is to be as little troubleſome as you can, and make all you hope for come rather as a Favour from your Patron than Claim from you. But I am here prating of what is the Method of Pleaſing ſo as to ſucceed in the World, when there are Crowds who have, in City, Town, Court, and Country, arrived at conſiderable Acquiſitions, and yet ſeem incapable of acting in any conſtant Tenour of Life, but have gone on from one ſucceſsful Errour to another: Therefore I think I may ſhorten this Enquiry after the Method of Pleaſing; and as the old Beau ſaid to his Son, once for all, *Pray Jack be a fine Gentleman*, ſo may I to my Reader abridge my Inſtructions, and finiſh the Art of Pleaſing in a Word, *Be rich*.

Never acted but once.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this preſent Monday, being the 21ſt of January, will be preſented a new Comedy call'd The Perplex'd Lovers: With a new Epilogue. By Her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes. N. B. The Author's Tickets that were given out for this Day will be taken to Morrow.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the H
Market, on Wedneſday next, being the 23d of Janu
be performed an Opera call'd Rinaldo. The Part of Arga
perform'd by Mr. Bendler, newly arriv'd; the Part of Go
by Signora Margarita de L'Eſpine, the Part of Euſtacio b
bier. The Pit and Boxes to be put together. No Perſons
mitted without Tickets, which will be deliver'd at
Chocolate-houſe and at the Theatre at half a Guinea each. Th
Gallery 4s. upper Gallery 1s. 6d. To begin exactly at
Perſon to ſtand on the Stage.

For the Entertainment of His Highneſs Prince
gene of Savoy, His Highneſs having pro
his Preſence there,

At Stationer's-Hall, this preſent Monday,
21ſt Inſtant, will be perform'd a Conſort of Vocal and In
Muſick, to begin exactly at 6 a Clock. Tickets to be had at C
Lillie's, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beaufort-Buildings in the
at Mr. Manſhip's at the Temple-Tavern in Fleet-ſtreet, and
Place of Performance. N. B. The Tickets deliver'd to the A
ſtant at the Golden Balls in Hare-ſtreet will be taken for this
tainment.

At the Three Queens at Charing-croſs, is
ſeen the famous Poſture-Maſter of Europe, who ſhows his
from 9 in the Morning till 5 in the Afternoon to 6 Gen
Ladies as well as to an 100. There is likewiſe to be ſeen
of 9 Years of Age, that performs the Activity of Body to the
eſt Satisfaction of all ingenious Perſons. And at 7 in the
they both perform the ſame at the Duke of Marlborough
Fleet-ſtreet, with him that performs the Hen and Eggs

Wines to be ſold by Retail.

Excellent Red and White Port, and Red
White Lisbon, being neat Wines as they came from the
the beſt Growth in Portugal. To be ſold by the Importer
in Brabant-Court in Philpot-Lane, viz. Red and White Port
Gallon, or 14l. per Hhd. Red and White Lisbon at 5s. 6d.
or 16l. per Hhd. Attendance will be given every Day till

For SALE by the CANDLE.

On Thurſday the 24th Inſtant, at Garra
Coffee-houſe in Exchange-Ally in Cornhill, at 3 a Clock, (
Cask in a Lot) 87 Hhds. of excellent French Claret, viz.
Tour, Margaux Obrion, and other of the beſt Growth
deep, bright, and of the true Flavour, fit for preſent Drink
ving been racked in France, and remain neat as they were
(not 1 Hhd. of Claret ſold out of theſe Vaults) compleating
of the Ship Chriſtina, Borge Hanſon Maſter, directly from
purſuant to an Act made the laſt Seſſions of Parliament.
Wines are now in Vaults in Token-houſe yard, at the
Leaden hall Coffee-houſe in Leaden-hall-ſtreet. To be
taſted to Morrow and Wedneſday from 8 to 1, and from
and all Thurſday till the Time of Sale. Catalogues ſhall be
diſperſed by Tho. Tomkins Broker.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

On Wedneſday the 23d Inſtant, at Lloyd's
fee-houſe in Lombard-ſtreet, at 4 in the Afternoon, (only
a Lot) excellent French (Prize) Brandy, full Proof, and of
Flavour, neat, an entire Parcel, imported by the Ship Ann
mouth, now in a Warehouſe on St. Dunſtan's Hill between
ſtreet and Thames-ſtreet. To be ſeen and taſted this Day
Morrow from 8 to 1, and from 2 to 5, and all Wedneſday
Time of Sale. To be ſold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in
Lane in Tower-ſtreet.

On Friday the 25th Inſtant, at Lloyd's C
houſe in Lombard ſtreet, at 4 a Clock Afternoon (only one C
Lot) 20 Buts and 20 Hhds of excellent Mountain (dry) Malaga
very ſtrong and good, neat, an entire Parcel, now in a Vault
Mr. Peter Knowles at the Blue Poſts between Gold
Crouched Friars and the Chain at Great Tower hill. To be
taſted on Wedneſday the 23d and Friday the 24th from 8
from 2 to 5, and all Friday the 25th Inſtant, as above, till the
of Sale. To be ſold by Tho. Tomkins Broker in Seething
Tower ſtreet.

A new Edition of HORACE, by the Rev
Dr. BENTLEY. in 2 Vol. Quarto, of the fineſt and large
the whole Impreſſion the ſame, will be publiſhed to Morrow
Inſtant, at Mr. Mortlock's in St. Paul's Church-yard, and
man's in Pater Noſter Row. Price, as ſet by Mr. Vice-C
at Cambridge, One Pound in Quires.

Just publiſhed,

A very neat Pocket Edition of the Specta
in 2 Vol. 12°, Printed for S. Buckley at the Dolphin in Little Bri
tain, and J. Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head over-againſt C
ſtreet in the Strand.

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